

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 064724

ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 MC-02
ACDA-10 AID-05 IGA-02 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 IO-13
/102 R

DRAFTED BY AF:GHAMILTON:GJB

APPROVED BY AF/C:TRBUCHANAN

AF/P:BRUSSELL

S/PRS - (INFO)

-----232254Z 064321 /67

O 232230Z MAR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 064724

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AO, CG

SUBJECT: SECRETARY VANCE'S STATEMENTS ON ZAIRE

MARCH 23, 1977

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1. PARA 2 IS INFORMAL TEXT OF PORTION OF SECRETARY
VANCE'S MARCH 23, 1977 TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE
FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN
ASSISTANCE.

2. SENATOR PELL: MY SPECIFIC QUESTION IS WITH REGARD

TO ZAIRE. WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR SENDING MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE AT THIS TIME?

SECRETARY VANCE: WE HAVE, AS YOU KNOW, SENATOR, MADE TWO LIMITED SHIPMENTS OF NON-MILITARY EQUIPMENT IN THE STRICT SENSE TO ZAIRE. THEY INCLUDED SUCH THINGS AS RATIONS, PARACHUTES, COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT, FUEL BLADDERS, MEDICAL SUPPLIES, UNIFORMS, AND THE LIKE, PLUS SPARE PARTS FOR C-130 AIRCRAFT.

SINCE THE OUTSET, WE HAVE BELIEVED THAT THE SOLUTION TO THE ZAIRE PROBLEM MUST BE FOUND IN THE POLITICAL SPHERE AMONG THE AFRICANS. AND SO WE HAVE BEEN WORKING QUIETLY SINCE THE VERY OUTSET OF THE INCURSION WITH THE AFRICAN NATIONS TO TRY AND BRING ABOUT A POLITICAL RESOLUTION OF THAT PROBLEM.

I AM HAPPY TO SAY THAT I AM ENCOURAGED TODAY BY WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THAT AREA. I AM SURE THAT YOU ALL READ IN THE PAPER TODAY THAT NIGERIA HAS AGREED TO ASSIST IN SEEING IF THEY CAN HELP IN THE RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM. THIS WILL BE MOST WELCOME, AND I HOPE THAT THIS IS THE WAY THE PROBLEM CAN BE RESOLVED.

I THINK THAT MANY OF THE AFRICAN NATIONS ARE CONCERNED WITH THE QUESTION OF TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND THEREFORE ARE VERY INTERESTED IN SEEING THAT THERE BE A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM, AND WE CERTAINLY HAVE IN THE PAST AND WILL CONTINUE TO WORK VIGOROUSLY WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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THEM TO TRY AND HELP THEM IN THIS POLITICAL RESOLUTION BY THE AFRICANS OF AN AFRICAN PROBLEM.

3. FOLLOWING HIS APPEARANCE BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE THE SECRETARY RESPONDED TO SEVERAL PRESS ENQUIRIES AS FOLLOWS: (INFORMAL VERSION).

QUESTION: COULD YOU TELL US WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO DO ABOUT THE REQUEST FOR AMMUNITION FROM ZAIRE?

SECRETARY VANCE: WE HAVE NOTHING ON THAT AT THIS POINT. AT THE MOMENT WE'RE LOOKING TO SEE WHAT WE CAN DO ON THE QUESTION OF A POLITICAL SOLUTION THERE.

QUESTION: IT MAY BE UNNECESSARY, IS WHAT YOU SEEM TO BE SAYING.

SECRETARY VANCE: IT MAY BE UNNECESSARY.
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DRAFTED BY: AF/C:GHAMILTON:GJB

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TO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

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FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 64724 ACTION KINSHASA LUSAKA DAR ES
SALAAM LAGOS LISBON NAIROBI ADDIS ABABA BRUSSELS PARIS
LONDON MAPUTO MOSCOW CAPE TOWN MAR 23, 1977

QTE UNCLAS STATE 064724

E.O. 11652: N/A

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Copy: SINGLE
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: GHAMILTON:GJB
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